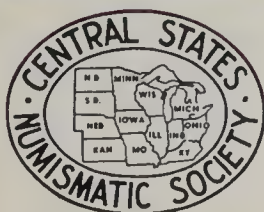


Quarterly Journal of the
Central States Numismatic Society



Volume 34, Number 3
Fall, 1986

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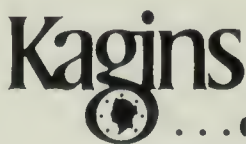
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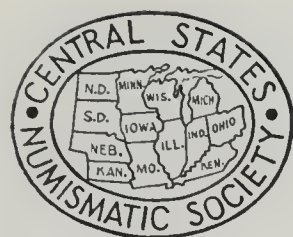
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Official Publication/Central States Numismatic Society

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VOL. 34, NO. 3

FALL, 1986

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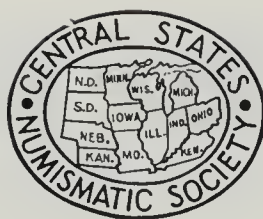
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Central States



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Articles for possible publication and advertising copy should be directed to the Editor. Changes of address should be directed to the Secretary-Treasurer.

A MESSAGE FROM THE

SECRETARY



It was really a pleasure to attend the recent American Numismatic Association Convention the first week of August in Milwaukee. Our own 1984 Central States Convention was held there, so I'd had an opportunity to meet many of our Wisconsin members then. My wife and I operated a Central States booth on the ANA club midway and we were able to talk to many of our members who stopped by to say, "hello."

The ANA Convention was quite an affair. The first day was marked by nearly seven inches of rain. I understand this is the heaviest downpour that's been recorded since they started keeping such records in Milwaukee. There was some localized flooding, but the convention itself was largely unaffected, save for two days without hot water for guests at several of the downtown hotels.

Several individuals who have made meaningful contributions to the Cen-

tral Numismatic Society played prominent roles in the ANA Convention. Board member Kurt Krueger served as General Chairman and was assisted by John Wilson, the convention's Assistant Chairman. John was recently elected to our Board of Governors. My Wisconsin contacts tell me that in addition to his full time job as a Milwaukee County Sheriff's Deputy, John devotes roughly 25 hours per day to his numismatic activities. No less hard working was John's wife, Nancy, who holds a seat on the Board of Wisconsin's statewide collector group, the Numismatists of Wisconsin.

The smiling face of ANA President Florence Schook was much in evidence at the convention. Florence also holds a seat on our Central States board, and must take great pleasure in being associated with such a well run event as the ANA conclave.

Maning our Central States booth made for a truly enjoyable convention. Our group has always been characterized by warm relationships between the members. This was certainly the case with the many who stopped by and who used our booth as a meeting place to plan their later dinner and meeting contacts.

At the heart of numismatics are the friendships one forms over the years. Exploring and cementing those friendships in Milwaukee made us realize once again just how satisfying these relationships are. So many people are limited in their contacts to the few who live in their immediate neighborhood. We in the numismatic fraternity are indeed fortunate that we can be close to people all over the country.

I know Marilyn and I consider ourselves fortunate that we have been able to meet so many genuinely warm people through our numismatic activities. As we started out on the drive back to Iowa at the conclusion of the ANA's Milwaukee convention, we remarked to each other how truly for-

tunate we are to have been associated with so many remarkable people in the numismatic fraternity.

For us, that was certainly the highlight of our Central States representation in Milwaukee.

— Robert E. "Bob" Douglas
Secretary

New Books On Countermarked Coins Announced

Rieh Hartzog of World Exonumia Press recently announced that the long awaited book **American and Canadian Countermarked Coins** by Greg Brunk is scheduled for a December release. Greg Brunk is the well-known author of **World Countermarks on Medieval and Modern Coins** and has been working on this manuscript for over ten years. The new book features over 2000 photos and a price guide, as well as many historical notes, contemporary advertisements of issuers and many maverick identifications. The first part lists every known countermark, while the second part lists all countermarks seen on two or more coins, with dates, denominations and prices, usually in two grades.

The massive book will be available in a softbound edition for \$39.95 and in hardbound for \$49.95 each, plus \$2.50 postage. A special prepublication discount of \$10 per copy is offered for orders postmarked in 1986. All checks will not be cashed until the books are shipped. A deluxe hardbound limited edition will be available upon special request only.

The second book announced is **World Merchant Countermarks**, which is wholly contained in the above book. Published as a separate 64 page reference, this book should be of interest to all world coin and token collectors. It contains listings of all known non-US and non-Canadian merchant, hacienda and political countermarks on modern world coins (post 1800). It is priced at \$9.95 postpaid for orders postmarked in 1986.

Orders for both books may be placed with your local dealer, distributor or directly with Rieh Hartzog, POB 4143 APO, Rockford, IL 61110. Hartzog accepts VISA and MC, and invites dealer inquiries.

ADVERTISING RATES

Beginning with the WINTER, 1986, Issue, rates will be as follows:

	<i>One Issue</i>	<i>Four Issue Contract</i>
Eighth Page	\$12.00	\$ 36.00
Quarter Page	18.00	66.00
Half Page	30.00	100.00
Full Page	50.00	175.00

Deadline for copy will be March 1, June 1, September 1, and December 1.

PRESIDENTIAL

COMMENTARY



By the time all the members read this, your Board will have concluded its interim meeting, held this year in St. Louis, Missouri. We accepted the gracious invitation of the Professional Currency Dealers Association to meet in conjunction with the First Annual National and World Paper Money Convention, which they are sponsoring in conjunction with the International Bank Note Society.

The paper money event will be held at the Cervantes Convention Center the same weekend as The National Silver Dollar Convention. Although the two numismatic conventions are separately managed, they have cooperated together closely. The combined size of the 400 table Silver Dollar Convention and the 100 table Paper Money Convention will make St. Louis the site of the largest numismatic gathering in the country during 1986 when measured in terms of the number of dealer tables in the bourse area.

Our own Central States Numismatic Society Convention will be held at the same Cervantes Convention Center in May of 1987. The Board will be working closely with our St. Louis convention committee to ensure that we have a well organized event next year. I know that Roger Munie, our General Chairman, has assembled an able and experienced convention committee, and I'm personally looking forward to one of our best conventions in recent memory.

Due to the efforts of the Missouri Numismatic Society and the St. Louis Numismatic Society, both of which have sponsored highly regarded coin shows for a number of years at the Airport Marriott, General Chairman Munie will have an experienced group of volunteers to draw on in managing our own convention in 1987.

The Board will be taking up a number of important questions in St. Louis, perhaps the most important of which will be related to the management of our annual convention. At our Spring meeting, the decision was made to have a permanent convention manager. Some of our members have felt that we have experienced a number of organizational problems at recent Central States convention which can be attributed to a lack of continuity in convention management. It is my hope that by having one individual be responsible for the year to year administration of the convention, we will be able to avoid such problems in the future.

I'll be giving a full report to the members in the Winter issue of *The Centinel* on the specifics of this, and

any other matters which were considered at the interim meeting in St. Louis.

It is with great sadness that I must report to our members the sudden death of Governor Harold Berk of Ohio. Harold was one of those rare individuals who was able to deal with the most serious and contentious of issues before the Board in a way which brought contending groups together and helped each side to appreciate the logic of the other's views. He was a warm and generous man who always had a kind word for all, and we shall miss him. Life is too short to dwell on the sadness of such a loss, and I know each of the Board members will look back on their association

with Harold and think more of the constructive and enduring influence he has been for our Society, and will continue to be through the memory of his innovative positions and programs over the years.

Harold first became a member of Central States Numismatic Society in 1957 and served continuously as either a Governor or Officer from 1971 until the time of his death. From 1976 until 1978, he held the office of President, and will be an example for all of us who follow in his footsteps. He was a dedicated worker on behalf of organized numismatics and will be missed by all who were privileged to know him.

— Leon Hendrickson, President

The Grading Certificate Bandwagon

A Guest Opinion by J. D. Parsons

The grading controversy on "investment quality" U. S. coins has reached truly ludicrous proportions. Week after week one sees in "Coin World" big ads offering not coins for sale but grading certificates, computer-linked numismatic "exchanges," book and investment newsletters giving "sure winners," and all kinds of nonsense. Numismatics is the latest buzz word on Wall Street, we are told. One of the private grading services repeatedly runs a full page ad showing an executive-type in shirt and tie fondling a bunch of grading certificates (no coins are shown). And now (what will they think of next?) we have the first coin dealer cartel. A group of dealers is offering investment coins entombed in plastic slabs that have to be hit by a hammer to get open, along with grading certificates featuring ten different grades of Uncirculated (!). This unwieldy system is touted to be the solution to the grading "problem" because the members of the cartel purportedly agree to buy coins graded by the system sight unseen. However, the price is not specified.

Behind the scenes a very different, darker picture is emerging. More and more honest dealers are switching out of coins, unable to compete with the promoters. Many collectors are being turned off by what they see is a giant con game. The market no longer makes sense to these people and grading has been refined to such a degree that it appears that only world-renowned experts can properly grade coins, and mere mortals cannot ever hope to learn, but instead should just trust the experts.

We believe that it is very important for the average coin collector to understand what is going on here. What has happened in the past three years is that a very small group of promoters has manipulated the prices on MS-65 coins to artificially high levels. They have been able to do this because they have recruited via telephone marketing a vast number of investors, who, frankly,

don't know what the heck they are doing. The result is that the wholesale sheets are now listing prices in their MS-65 columns that are far higher than the coins are bringing in the market. Rather, these prices are what the promoters are **selling** the coins to investors for. There isn't a dealer in the country that will pay these prices for MS-65 coins unless they have an **immediate** customer, or the coins are so fantastic in quality that they might be worth buying on speculation to sell to the promoters. Therefore MS-65, as defined by the prices in the wholesale sheets, is no longer a grade, but a criterion that the promoters will buy the coin.

As MS-65 prices are pushed higher and higher, fewer and fewer coins will meet this criterion, and the ones that will not are redefined as MS-64. In fact, there are so few coins that will bring the bloated MS-65 prices on the true wholesale level that the grade MS-65 is becoming extinct. Meanwhile, people who bought MS-65 coins as recently as two or three years ago are outraged to find that their coins are now MS-64 and worth only a tiny fraction of what the wholesale sheets say they are worth. So these people naturally think that the dealer who sold them the coins is a crook, whereas what has really happened is that the prices they are looking at are themselves completely artificial.

We also think it is important for the collector to step back from this nonsense and get some perspective. Coin collecting can still be a very enjoyable, relaxing hobby. It is not necessary to get involved in this grading fiasco. There is a very simple way of avoiding the whole mess — just don't buy the over-promoted MS-65 coins. The rest of the U. S. market is priced reasonably and is almost completely free of the abuses in MS-65 coins. There are many fine opportunities today to purchase attractive and interesting numismatic material of real rarity and historical significance. These are the kinds of coins collectors will be looking for in the future, as they have for decades in the past.

On the other hand, it is anybody's guess if a collector of the future will pay \$500 or \$1000 for an MS-65 1880-S in a plastic slab with grading papers. It is my feeling that he won't. The collector who systematically accumulates fine coins of proven rarity and value has nothing to worry about when it comes to selling his collection. If you keep this in mind, it may help you to avoid jumping on the grading certificate bandwagon, a bandwagon we fell is probably going to have a short life.

New Paper Money Book Studies States' Seals and National Bank Notes

Have you ever studied your state seal, admired its beauty, wondered by whom it was designed and when? Most of us have had such thoughts on at least a few occasions. For Dewitt Prather the great seals and coats of arms of the states and territories became his collecting passion.

His interest in the seals tied in perfectly with his interest in United States paper money. Now, after 30 years of collecting, studying and admiring state seals and national bank notes, Prather's efforts have resulted in an interesting new book, **United States National Bank Notes and Their Seals**.

Prather set out to collect national bank notes with the seals of the states or territories. First Charter Period notes and Second Charter Period brown back notes have representations of the respective seals in an oval at the left on the

back of the notes. In some cases the territory did not have a seal, in which case an eagle was placed in the space intended for the seal. In other cases the territorial seal was used after statehood. In yet other cases various versions of the seal were used on the notes.

In forming his collection, Prather has made many interesting discoveries and uncovered mysteries and curiosities — some of which remain unsolved. He has also had many interesting experiences which he relates in his new book.

Along the way to forming his collection of notes he decided to add official examples of the current state seals to his collection. This decision also generated new collecting adventures for Prather. He visited all 50 state capitols, but still had great difficulty in obtaining his seals.

The bulk of the book is devoted to a description of the notes in the Prather collection which feature the seals of the states. Each state has a separate section of two, three or four pages. Each state section includes a line drawing of the current state seal, vital data about the state, and a discussion about the design and development of the seal.

The notes with the state seals are the feature illustrations of each state section. Prather describes the important aspects of the notes illustrated and the banks which they represent. He also includes commentary on the desirability and availability of these notes to collectors, and the date and source of his own acquisition.

To many readers, the highlight of the book will be 78 full color illustrations of state seals and coats of arms. The first 46 reproductions are from an 1876 pamphlet which was prepared for the centennial celebration of the independence of the United States, which was held in Philadelphia in 1876. The pamphlet, *Arms of the United States*, was published by L. Prang & Company of Boston. The original text states that the arms of the states were prepared with the assistance of H. Mitchell, who was a well known designer and seal engraver of Boston. The arms of the thirteen original states were in accordance with paintings deposited in the Independence Hall, Philadelphia, by the states. The originals for the other states were supplied by the executive authorities of the states.

In order to illustrate the seals of the last five states to join the Union and the eight states (plus the District of Columbia) which changed their seals between 1890 and 1900, Prather engaged the talents of an artist to render original paintings, which are reproduced in the book.

The hardbound book contains 200 pages and 16 color plates. The book, which sells for \$43 postpaid, is being distributed nationwide by the BNR Press, 132 East Second Street, Port Clinton, Ohio 43452; phone (419) 734-2422.

EDUCATIONAL EXHIBITORS

It isn't too early to make plans for exhibiting at the May 7-10, 1987 Central States Numismatic Society Convention in St. Louis, Missouri. This year's convention promises to be one of the best ever. To get your participation started, use the exhibit application form appearing as a centerfold in this issue of *The Centinel*.

James S. Moores, Exhibit Chairman

Bourse Floor Expanded for ANA Mid-Winter Convention

Because of increased interest and demand from dealers, the American Numismatic Association's 9th Midwinter Convention in Charlotte, North Carolina, is featuring more than 200 tables on the bourse floor. The convention, to be held at the Charlotte Convention Center, is scheduled for February 27 - March 1, 1987.

At the 1986 8th Midwinter Convention in Salt Lake City, the bourse numbered 162. It will increase to at least 200 tables for the Charlotte convention, making this year's bourse the largest ever for a Midwinter convention, according to Merrill Davis, Bourse Floor Manager. "We have received an incredible number of applicants for the Charlotte bourse," Davis said. "This is the most interest we have had from dealers for a Midwinter convention, so we have picked up another floor to accommodate an additional 38-plus tables."

The American Numismatic Association's annual summer conventions and midwinter coin shows attract state and regional groups, special interest clubs and numismatic enthusiasts from nearly every part of the country. Participants can view a fascinating assortment of coin collections, display their own specimens, bid on rare and valuable material at auction, attend educational forums and — in what many consider to be the highlight of any show — examine the choicest selections of the world's top dealers on the large bourse floor.

Convention bourse dealers are selected on the basis of their numismatic merit, with those ANA members earning the most stars being accepted for the bourse. Applicants with five stars or more are automatically accepted; others remain on an alternate list. The dealer rating sheet — the determining factor in deciding which dealers receive a table — underwent revision last year, and the Charlotte convention is the first time the new rating is in effect.

"The rating sheet has been expanded to be more specific," Davis said. "For instance, to get stars for promoting the hobby a person must do more than join the ANA. We want to give credit to those people who enhance the hobby by spreading the word about numismatics and the ANA."

Under the old system, dealers could earn up to seven stars based on contract advertising in **The Numismatist** — the official publication of the ANA, contributions to the ANA library, museum or other fund, donations of \$2,000 or more, recruiting new members, being a life member or regular member of 25 years, and serving the Association as a seminar instructor, ANACS consultant, promoter, YN adviser or contributing writer in **The Numismatist**.

The new system has added seven points to the rating sheet in the following areas: contract advertising in **The Numismatist** (two stars for one half page or larger); donating to the ANA (one star for up to \$500 and two stars for more than \$500 during the past year, and an additional star for \$2,500 in the past); holding previous bourse tables (one star for one of the two most recent annual conventions, one star for one of the two most recent midwinter conventions, one star for tables at ANA conventions for ten years or more); proposing five or more new members to ANA during the past year; and promoting the hobby or displaying conduct becoming the hobby.

"The revised form allows dealers more opportunities to qualify for bourse tables by recognizing more of their services to the ANA and the hobby," said Davis. The new rating sheet has also revised areas in which dealers can lose their stars to include delinquent ANA Certification Service accounts, one or

more complaints which are unsettled after having gone before the Board of Governors, and leaving prior conventions early without permission.

Once qualifying for the bourse, dealers are assigned tables by draw. They are placed in one of four categories: Regular area, a special area for dealers selling items for less than \$100, an area for dealers having between five and seven stars on their rating sheets, and an area for dealers who have had tables at ANA conventions for 15 years or more. As each name is drawn, the approved floor plan for the bourse area is filled beginning with the best section of the floor in each of the different areas.

After the tables have been drawn, changes are made only if there are cancellations or if there is an overwhelming number of applicants. ANA Executive Director Ruthann Brettell selects replacements based on the dealers in the alternate group having the greatest number of stars. For more information about the American Numismatic Association, write to 818 North Cascade Ave., Colorado Springs, CO 80903-3279, or phone 303-632-2646.

Krause Releases Currency Book

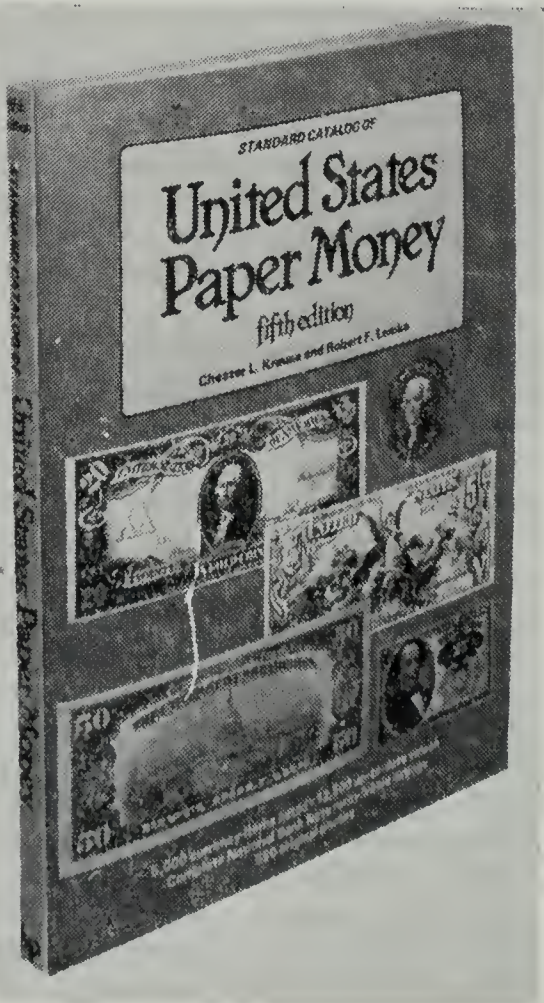
Iola, WI — The fifth edition of the Standard Catalog of United States Paper Money, featuring totally updated 1986 pricing data, and new in-text cross referencing of the Krause/Lemke numeric system and Friedberg designations, has been published by Krause Publications.

The 192-page catalog lists over 5,000 U. S. currency items with market values presented in up to three grades of preservation.

Authors Chester Krause and Robert Lemke cover nearly 175 years of paper money in this catalog, making it the most comprehensive U. S. currency reference ever compiled.

Coverage begins with previously unrecorded Treasury notes used to finance the War of 1812, and continues through Large size notes, National Bank notes and Small size notes. National Bank Notes, issued by more than 14,000 "home town" banks between 1863 and 1935, are the most widely collected series of U. S. paper money. Over 550 original photos of all types and major varieties are provided for easy visual identification.

Listing are presented in a style long observed by American Catalogers, with denominational arrangement by face value from the lowest to highest and arrangement by series from earliest to most recent. Previous catalog editions included Friedberg num-



bers in the back portion of the book. Readers will now find them conveniently located in a ready-reference position.

Introductions for each major section provide basic historical and economic backgrounding, helping the reader understand the context and purpose of each issue. Emphasis is given to the special collecting areas of Fractional Currency, Postage Stamp Envelopes, Encased Postage Stamps, Military Payment Certificates and error notes, along with Pre-Civil War U. S. Treasury Notes, National Bank Notes, all large-size note series and all small-size note series.

The catalog is assembled by the experienced publishing team which presents Bank Note Reporter, the monthly newspaper providing news, advertising and features to the paper money hobby.

The Standard Catalog of United States Paper Money is priced at \$18.95 per copy and can be purchased at coin shops nationwide, or ordered directly from the publisher, Krause Publications, 700 East State Street, Iola, WI 54990. A postage and handling charge of \$2.50 per copy should be added when ordering from the publisher.

Hong Kong Marks Royal Visit With Gold Commemorative



The October visit to Hong Kong by Queen Elizabeth II and the Duke of Edinburgh is being marked by a limited issue of HK \$1000 gold coins in both frosted proof and brilliant uncirculated condition.

Struck by the British Royal Mint for the Government of Hong Kong as part of the ongoing series celebrating the ancient Chinese Lunar Calendar, the 1986 Royal Visit Commemorative takes on an interesting numismatic position. It is the first time that two coins within the series have been issued in the same year — the coin celebrating the Year of the Tiger was issued in January. It will also be the only coin in the series to feature the Raphael Makloutf effigy of the Queen as its obverse design. All previous issues have borne the renowned Arnold Machin portrait of Her Majesty, and this will be the case with the last coin of the series to be issued in 1987 celebrating the Year of the Rabbit.

The popular Hong Kong series which commenced in 1975 with the \$1000 gold commemorative, issued to mark that year's first historic visit by Her Majesty to the Crown Colony, includes the twelve coins representing the animals of the lunar calendar: the dragon (1976), the snake, horse, goat, monkey, cockerel,

dog, pig, rat, ox, the tiger (1986) and the rabbit (1987). The 1986 Royal Visit Commemorative therefore becomes the thirteenth coin in the series.

The reverse design of the 1986 Royal Visit \$1000 Commemorative coin bears the heraldic arms which were formally presented to the Governor of Hong Kong by H.R.H. The Prince Philip during his visit to Honk Kong in 1959. It symbolizes the close association with Britain and Hong Kong's dependence on sea communications and trade.

Struck in solid 22 karat gold, the coin is available in both frosted proof and brilliant uncirculated versions. Each coin weighs 15.976 grams and has a diameter of 28.4 mm. This special issue is very limited indeed, with only 12,000 gold frosted proofs and 20,000 gold brilliant uncirculated coins authorized.

At this time a small number of the 1986 Year of the Tiger coins are still available from the British Royal Mint's North American Bureau. All the coins are elegantly presented in their own presentation case.

Prices for the 1986 Hong Kong coins are: 1986 Royal Visit \$1000 Gold Proof, \$515.00 (US), \$725.00 (CAN); 1986 Royal Visit \$1000 Gold B. U., \$345 (US), \$485 (CAN); 1986 Tiger \$1000 Gold Proof, \$15 (US), \$725 (CAN); 1986 Tiger \$1000 Gold B. U., \$345 (US), \$485 (CAN).

Orders and inquiries should be addressed to the British Royal Mint, c/o Barclays Bank of New York, N. A., P. O. Box 2570, New York, NY 10163, or by calling toll-free 800-221-1215 (9:00-5:00 EST), except New York residents (add tax please) 718-204-2400. Dealers contact Kaller Associates, 275 Liberty Avenue, Westbury, NY 15590, 516-334-7113.

World Paper Catalog Available

The new fifth edition of **Standard Catalog of World Paper Money** by paper money authority Albert Pick, is now available from Kruse Publications. This two-volume catalog set is comprised of **Volume I, Specialized Issues** and **Volume II, General Issues**. Eagerly awaited by collectors worldwide, the set documents over 250 years of world paper money issues. Each volume retails for \$45.

Attractively designed in hardcover, these volumes present a combined total of 2,016 pages, 196 more pages than the previous edition. Included are more than 100,000 newly-revised price valuations featured in three grades for each listing, based on current market conditions; over 2,400 additional listings; and in excess of 17,200 photographic illustrations. 37,000 notes are listed, described and valued in U. S. dollars.

Volume I, Specialized Issues documents commercial and restricted circulation issue coverage, including an impressive compilation of military note issues for the past 250 years. 16,300 notes listed from 345 issuing authorities can be found in this volume, enhanced by 7,600 illustrations. More than 40,000 updated market valuations will aid collector and dealer buying, selling and trading.

1,300 new listings have been added to the specialized issues volume, including new additions to U. S. state note issues, pre- to immediate post civil war; new additions to the Canadian listings, chartered bank, non-chartered bank, and spurious bank issues; complete revisions to the Chinese and German listings; and first-time-ever pricing information for hundreds of "rare" issues. 928 pages fill this volume.

Volume II, General Issues presents a comprehensive listing of all nationally

circulated government legal tender issues for the 18th through 20th century. 1,100 new listings have been added to this general issues volume. Over 260 note-issuing authorities are represented.

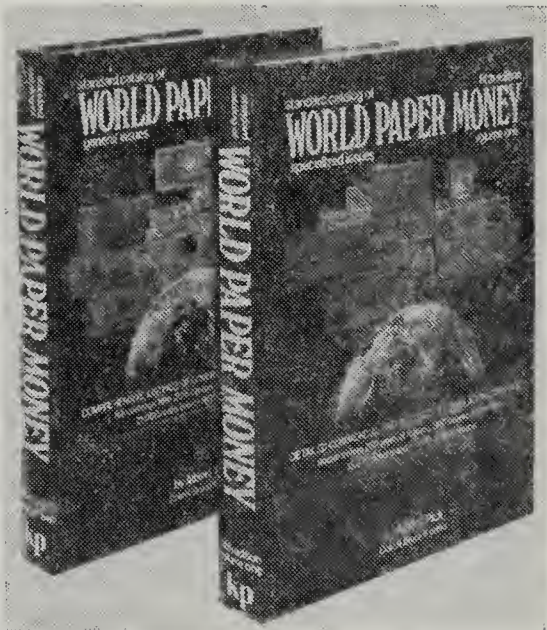
Highlights of this 1,088 page volume include 2,500 new photographs; 60,000 updated price valuations based on market conditions; 100 additional sections on Ottoman listings, early Columbian listings, and Greece listings.

Material in these volumes underwent complete review, creating clearer textual descriptions, especially the face and back of notes not illustrated. Many modern issues have been added since the last edition was published four years ago.

The 5th edition **Standard Catalog of World Coins** is the unsurpassed source-book on world paper money. Beginning and veteran collectors alike will appreciate handy user aids found in each volume, like indexes for note-issuing authorities, pictorial grading and printer abbreviation guides, and international numeral systems charts.

Pick, universally recognized as the word's foremost paper money expert, was assisted by Neil Shafer, America's leading paper money authority, who served as cataloging editor and market analyst. Both 5th edition volumes were assembled under the expert direction of Colin Brue II, editor of many Krause Publications' highly respected world coin and paper money publications.

The 5th edition **Standard Catalog of World Paper Money, Volume I Specialized Issues and Volume II General Issues** is available at \$45 per volume from coin shops and dealers around the U. S., or directly from Krause Publications, 700 East State Street, Iola, WI 54990.



MEMBERSHIP APPLICATIONS

The persons named below have applied for membership in the Society. Each applicant will become a member in 30 days, unless a written objection to his or her application is received by the Secretary-Treasurer prior to that date.

REGULAR MEMBERSHIP

4705	Clayton O. Grant	Setauket, New York
4706	Gene G. Gress	Alice, Texas
4707	Danny West	Charlotte, North Carolina
4708	Vincent W. Alones	Floral Park, New York
4709	Charles Stowers	McCook, Nebraska
4710	Howard E. Bailey	Norton, Ohio
4711	James H. Adams	Baraboo, Wisconsin
4712	Joseph A. Klodzinski	Schaumburg, Illinois
4713	Dave Fanale	Chicago, Illinois
4714	Nick Fanale	Norridge, Illinois

4715	Wes Kuehl	LeClaire, Iowa
4716	Robert R. Van Ryzin	Oshkosh, Wisconsin
4717	Maude A. Brown	Clearwater, Florida
4718	Charles R. Hoskins	Washington, D. C.
4719	Pauline E. Abbott	Clearwater, Florida
4720	Donald E. Johnson	Vicksburg, Michigan
4721	Steven P. Fjestad	Forrest Lake, Minnesota
4722	Robert L. Jackson	Fairview Park, Ohio
4723	Virgil G. Jackson	Beaver Dam, Wisconsin
4724	Gregory C. Carpenter	Evanston, Illinois
4725	Steven Niecko	Greenfield, Wisconsin
4726	Richard L. Weber	Waterloo, Iowa
4727	Robert Radtke	Grafton, Wisconsin
4728	W. Ray Lockwood	Marion, Indiana
4729	Frank Bud Singer	Garwin, Iowa
4730	William C. Hoffman	Chesterton, Indiana
4731	Mrs. Darlene Ziemendorf	West Allis, Wisconsin
4732	Bernard Pawlicki, Jr.	Brooklyn Park, Minnesota
4733	Gregory D. Krill	San Diego, California
4734	Dan Nommensen	Mequon, Wisconsin
4735	Steven G. Schoembs	Toledo, Ohio..
4736	Clayton J. Hageman	Plano, Illinois
4737	Kevin Dailey	New Lenox, Illinois
4738	Paul E. Mericle, Sr.	Kankakee, Illinois
4739	Charles R. Fowler	Joliet, Illinois
4740	Louis R. Stubler	Sheboygan, Wisconsin
4741	Kevin Skadron	Bloomington, Illinois
4742	John F. Maben, Jr.	Cherry Hill, New Jersey
4743	Jeffery Antonuk	Lenexa, Kansas
4744	Robert J. Balas	Richmond, Virginia
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404	Mike Curran	Hampton, Illinois

WOULD YOU LIKE TO SUBMIT AN ARTICLE TO *THE CENTINEL* ?

The Central States Numismatic Society welcomes articles related broadly to numismatic themes. All of the material contributed will be entered in competition for the Elston Bradfield Literary Award for the best article to appear in *The Centinel*. Articles from contributors less than 18 years old are entered in competition for the Daniel Parker Literary Award. In addition, authors are compensated at a rate of roughly five dollars per 100 words.

If you have a piece you'd like to submit for possible publication, contact the Editor: Kevin Foley, P. O. Box 589, Milwaukee, WI 53201. (414) 282-2388

SHOW CALENDAR

Show Chairmen are invited to send announcements of upcoming coin shows in the Central States region. The Show Calendar is intended to assist collectors and dealers in planning their show attendance. It is also designed to aid show sponsors in avoiding date conflicts. Show dates will be listed up to 24 months in advance and show sponsors are encouraged to submit dates for future shows through June of 1988. Please include the city where the show will be held, official name of the show, show dates and location, as well as the name, address and phone number of the show or bourse chairman. Send to: Kevin Foley, P. O. Box 589, Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53201.

MUNCIE, INDIANA — JANUARY 25, 1987

Muncie Coin and Stamp Club 30th Annual Show. L. A. Pittenger Student Center, Ball State University, 200 West University Avenue. David Wantz, 3600 Woodstock Lane, Muncie, Indiana 47302. (317) 289-7692

ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI — FEBRUARY 21-23, 1987

23rd Annual Greater America Coin Fair, Marriott Airport Motor Inn. Bill Armstrong, 327 Northwest Plaza, St. Ann, Missouri 63074.

RACINE, WISCONSIN — FEBRUARY 28 - MARCH 1, 1987

Racine Numismatic Society 49th Annual Coin Show. Racine Sheraton Hotel, 7111 West Washington Avenue, Highway 20. Jerry Binsfield, P. O. Box 191, Pleasant Prairie, Wisconsin 53158.

KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI — MARCH 6-8, 1987

Midwest Numismatic Association 22nd Annual Coin Show, Ramada Inn Southwest, I-435 at 87th Street Exit. Marvin F. Gross, 9723 Marsh Avenue, Kansas City, Missouri 64134. (816) 763-0666

KENOSHA, WISCONSIN — MARCH 8, 1987

Kenosha Coin Club 29th Annual Coin Show. Kenosha Holiday Inn, 5125 6th Avenue. Lloyd Sommers, 4109 86th Street, Kenosha, Wisconsin 53142.

MADISON, WISCONSIN — MARCH 15, 1987

Madison Coin Club Annual Coin Show. Sheraton Inn and Conference Center, 706 John Nolen Drive. Robert Kraft, 205 North Whitney Way, Madison, Wisconsin 53705. (608) 233-8823 or 233-3519

MILWAUKEE, WISCONSIN — MARCH 27-29, 1987

South Shore Coin Club's Annual Coin Show. MECCA Convention Center, 6th and Kilbourn Streets. John Wilson, P. O. Box 27185, Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53227. (414) 545-8636

LANSING, MICHIGAN — APRIL 10-12, 1987

Michigan State Numismatic Society Annual Spring Convention and Coin Show. Michigan State Numismatic Society, P. O. Box 1157, Battle Creek, Michigan 49016.

OVERLAND PARK, KANSAS — APRIL 24-26, 1987

Kansas Numismatic Association 4th Annual Convention and Coin Show. Joe Scarlett, 12612 West 104th Terrace, Overland Park, Kansas 66215.

ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI — MAY 8-10, 1987

Central States Numismatic Society 48th Anniversary Convention. Cervantes Convention Center. Roger Munie, P. O. Box 155, Belleville, Illinois 62222.

LINCOLN, NEBRASKA — MAY 16-17, 1987

Nebraska Numismatic Association 32nd Annual Convention and Coin Show. Ramada Inn, I-80 and Municipal Airport Interchange.

INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA — JUNE 19-21, 1987

Indiana State Numismatic Association 29th Annual Convention. Indiana Convention Center, 101 South Capitol Avenue. Jerry Lebo, P. O. Box 44337, Indianapolis, Indiana 46204. (317) 271-6621

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS — JUNE 26-28, 1987

Annual N.O.I.S.E. Coin Show. Joseph Irmen, 1108 West Devon, Suite 216, Elk Grove Village, Illinois 60007.

MILWAUKEE, WISCONSIN — JULY 24-26, 1987

MidAmerica Coin Show. MECCA Convention Center, 6th and Kilbourn. Kevin Foley, P. O. Box 589, Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53201. (414) 282-2388

ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI — AUGUST 14-16, 1987

Missouri Numismatic Society 27th Annual Coin Festival. Marriott Airport Hotel. Missouri Numismatic Society, 5005 South Grand Boulevard, St. Louis, Missouri 63111.

OKOBOJI, IOWA — AUGUST 22-23, 1987

8th Annual Iowa Great Lakes Coin and Paper Money Show. The Lodge, Highway 71 North. Don McCulloch, 806 25th Street, Spirit Lake, Iowa 51360.

MILWAUKEE, WISCONSIN — OCTOBER 9-11, 1987

Milwaukee Numismatic Society 53rd Annual Coin Show. MECCA Convention Center, 4th and Kilbourn. A. P. "Del" Bertschy, 3939 North Murray Avenue, Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53211. (414) 962-5975

OMAHA, NEBRASKA — OCTOBER 17-18, 1987

Fifth Annual Central States Numismatic Society Fall Convention and Coin Show. Leonard Owen, 684 North 59th Street, Omaha, Nebraska 68132.

ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI — OCTOBER 29 - NOVEMBER 1, 1987

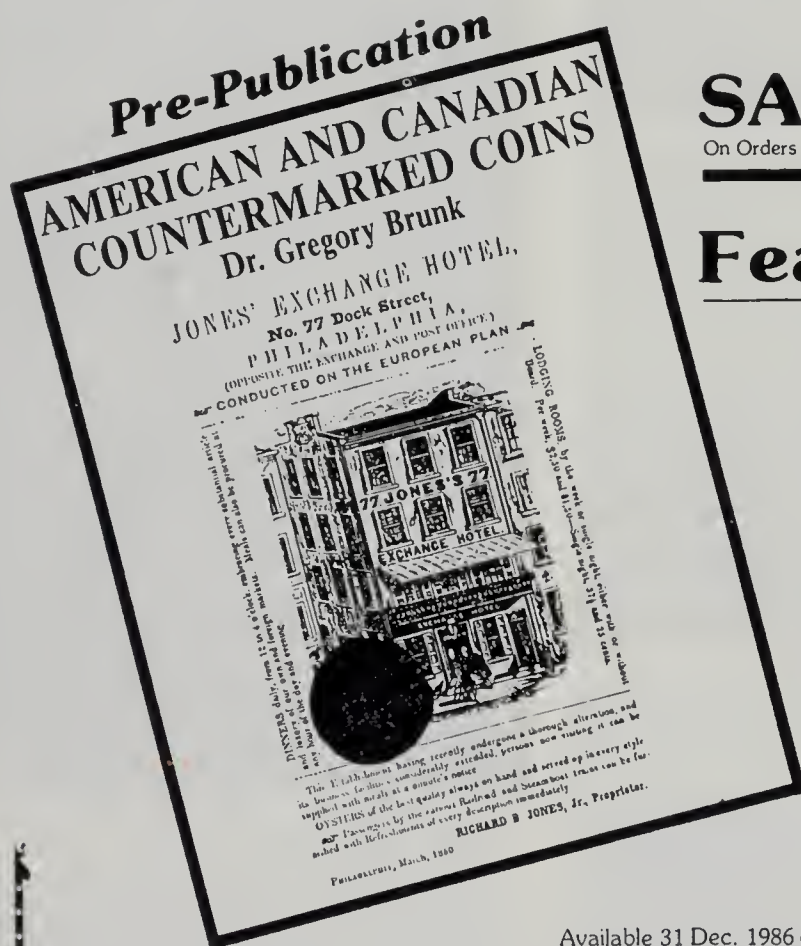
National Silver Dollar Convention. Cervantes Convention Center. NSDC, P. O. Box 142, Broken Arrow, Oklahoma 74013.

ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI — OCTOBER 29 - NOVEMBER 1, 1987

2nd Annual National and World Paper Money Convention. Cervantes Convention Center. Professional Currency Dealers Association, P. O. Box 589, Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53201.

DEARBORN, MICHIGAN — NOVEMBER 27-29, 1987

Michigan States Numismatic Society Annual Fall Convention and Coin Show. Hyatt-Regency Hotel. Michigan State Numismatic Society, P. O. Box 2014, Livonia, Michigan 48154.



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The Berghoff Chips

by Mark Wieclaw

Imagine a restaurant that is in a convenient location, offers a pleasant atmosphere, and serves excellent food. Now, you may say that this description can fit many places. While this is certainly true, how many of those restaurants can you go to where the waiter will pay for your meal?

By now you have probably surmised by the title of this article and the photo that the name of the restaurant is The Berghoff. It is located at 17 W. Adams in downtown Chicago. Now before you get into your car and head out looking for a free meal, let me forewarn you of a couple of items. First, please don't try to locate Berghoff chips on the menu. They are not an appetizer, side dish, or dessert. In fact, they're not even edible.

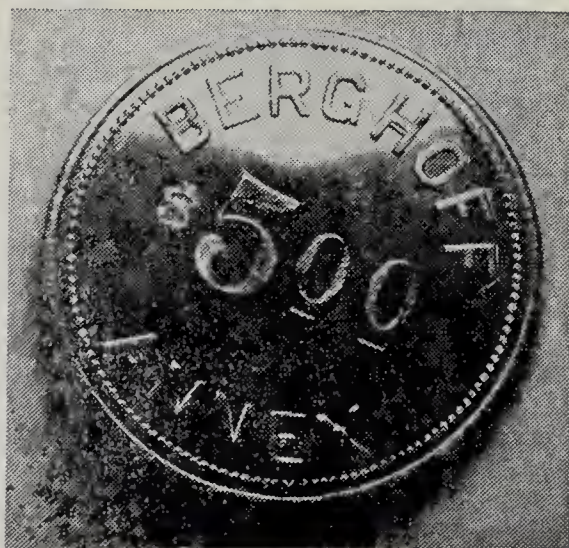
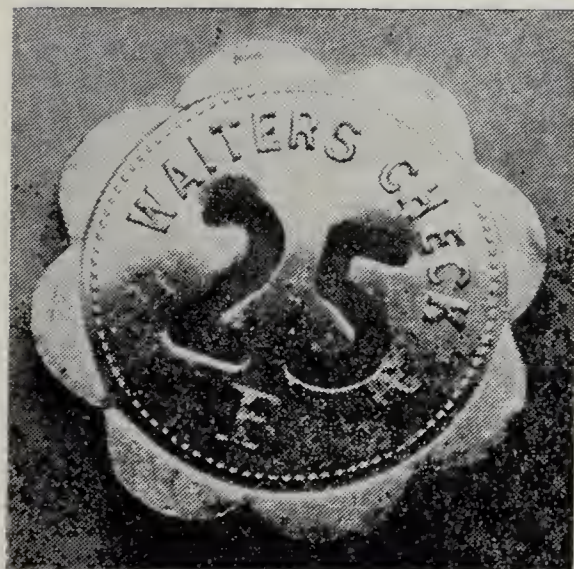
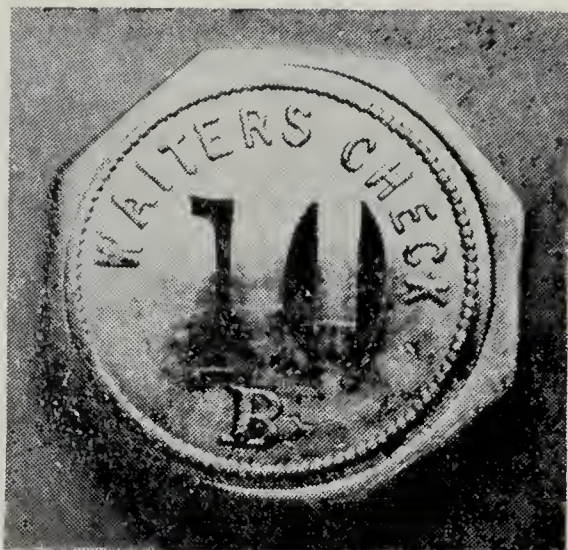
Secondly, although the waiters do indeed pay for your meal, you must reimburse them when you are ready to leave. You see, the Berghoff chips are a set of tokens that each waiter carries so they can prepay each meal they serve. The chip system is an old Teutonic-European system that has worked well since 1915. It may even be the only chip system still used in our country.

Before I explain how the chips work, let me give you a brief history of The Berghoff. In 1887, Herman Berghoff opened a brewery in Ft. Wayne, Indiana and featured a Berghoff All-Malt Dortmunder Beer that soon became very popular in the area. During the World's Columbian Exposition of 1892-93, Mr. Berghoff brought his special brew to Chicago, and it was quite a success. Herman then decided that Chicago would be a great market for his beer, but realized that in order for him to sell it on a permanent basis, he would have to open a cafe and serve food as well as beer. In 1898, he opened his first cafe, located on the corner of State and Adams Streets. The cafe offered free sandwiches with a 5¢ beer and again proved to be quite successful.

In 1915, The Berghoff Cafe relocated one door west to its present location. During prohibition the Berghoff's food menu developed rather extensively, since liquor sales noticed quite a decline! Then, in the late 1960s, the National Organization for Women paid them a visit and found a rather low percentage (0 percent) of women in their "Men's Bar." After being enlightened by them, they welcomed women with open arms into the "Men's Bar." The name was changed to the "Public Bar" and now on a Friday night as much as 50 percent of the



The Berghoff, downtown Chicago



Photos of Chips — Main Level Chips

customers are women. This bar is now the last stand-up bar in Chicago and has no public entrance to the interior of the restaurant.

The Berghoff still maintains solid oak paneling, tables, and chairs. It also employs more than 200 people, with the waiters still wearing white aprons, black jackets, and using chips in buying the food to serve their customers, just like they did in 1915.

Now, for the explanation of the chips (tokens). Each morning before The Berghoff opens, the waiters go to the head cashier to receive an advance of \$100 worth of chips. Next to the kitchen and bars are food and beverage cashiers who ring up the waiter's order. The waiter then pays for the food and beverage immediately, before serving the customer. He pays in chips rather than currency. Since he only has one free hand, the chips are of various shapes and sizes so that the waiter can distinguish them without looking. When the customers are finished eating, they pay the waiter at the table, which seems to be more efficient since the restaurant seats over 700 people. The waiter also carries U. S. currency so that he can make change for the customer and purchase more chips when needed. At the end of the shift, all left over chips are turned in. All chips must be accounted for each day, and the dining areas on the main level have different shaped chips than the lower level to make it easier for accounting purposes.

The chips are of six denominations ranging from 5¢ to \$10. They are made by Meyer and Wenthe of Harwood Heights, Illinois. Approximately \$15,000 worth of chips are on hand although only \$8,500 are in circulation at one time. The chips wear well and are replaced usually due to loss rather than wear. Because of inflation, a \$5 chip was added in 1970 and a \$10 chip added in 1983. It is hoped a \$20 chip will not be needed for some time.

The obverse of the 5¢ chip has only a large numeral 5, while the reverse carries "Berghoff." The 10¢ and 25¢ chips each have the numerals cut out and carry common obverses of "waiters check - B" and reverses of "Berghoff Annex, 15-35 W. Adams St." The \$1.00, \$5.00 and \$10.00 each carry the denomination on both sides with "Berghoff" on the \$1.00 and \$5.00. The \$10.00 has "annex." Some specifics of the chips are:

Denomination	Weight/gms	Size/mm	Shape	Color
5¢	1.3	25.0	Round	Silver
10¢	1.4	26.5	Octagon	Silver
25¢	1.4	28.5	Round with scalloped edge	Silver
\$ 1.00	8.2	36.0	Hexagon	Yellow
\$ 5.00	2.9	38.0	Round	Red
\$10.00	2.9	38.0	Round with scalloped edge	Silver

The composition of the \$1.00 chip is brass, while the other chips are aluminum.

Just one more note of interest. The prices of the food at The Berghoff are unusually reasonable for the location, and the menu offers great variety. Also, a special thanks to Herman J. Berghoff for all the help he provided.

RACINE, WISCONSIN

FEBRUARY 28 - MARCH 1, 1987

Racine Numismatic Society's 49th Annual Coin Show

Racine Sheraton Hotel — 7111 West Washington Avenue

Bourse: Jerry Binsfield

P. O. Box 191

Pleasant Prairie, WI 53158

FOR COMMITTEE USE

EXHIBIT NUMBER _____

CASE NUMBER _____

CLASS _____

**CENTRAL STATES NUMISMATIC SOCIETY
48th ANNIVERSARY CONVENTION**

CERVANTES CONVENTION CENTER, ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI

MAY 7 - 10, 1987

— APPLICATION FOR RESERVATION OF EXHIBIT SPACE (AND CASES) —

I would like to reserve space for an exhibit of numismatic material of _____ cases for above convention. My exhibit is to be entered and judged in the class designated below by an X. (Note: No single exhibit may be entered in more than one class. No more than one entry per class. A separate application must be submitted for each exhibit.)

A limit of six cases totaling not more than 15 linear feet of table space per exhibit. Regular A.N.A. cases (18" x 30") will be furnished; however, exhibitors may use their own cases provided they do not exceed the 15 foot linear limitation and are not more than five inches deep. All material, including titles, must be inside the exhibit cases.

— CLASSIFICATIONS —

- _____ A. U. S. Coins
- _____ B. Gold Coins
- _____ C. Coins Prior to 1500 A.D.
- _____ D. Foreign Coins After 1500 A.D.
- _____ E. All Paper Money

Exhibits may be placed **Thursday, May 7, 1987, between the hours of 2:00 p.m. and 5:00 p.m., and Friday, May 8, 1987, between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and noon.** NO EXHIBITS MAY BE REMOVED BEFORE 2:00 p.m., Sunday, May 10, 1987.

My exhibit will consist of (brief description): _____

I agree to abide by all the rules and committee decisions necessary to the conduct of the exhibit and by the decisions of the judges of the awards. I recognize and accept my personal liability regarding any loss or damages sustained either directly or indirectly in connection with my exhibit participation in the convention.

Please complete and return to:

James S. Moores
Exhibit Chairman
CSNS Convention
P. O. Box 812
Collinsville, Illinois 62234
618-345-7491

Deadline: April 23, 1987

NAME _____
STREET _____
CITY _____ **STATE** _____ **ZIP** _____
C.S.N.S. No. _____ and other Numismatic
Societies of which you are a member _____

(*) I will bring my own cases. YES _____ NO _____. If no, state number of cases needed. _____

Redbook Collecting

by Cal Wilson

Without question, one of the most popular areas of the bibliophilic side of numismatics is the collection of a complete set of **A Guide Book of United States Coins**, the famous "Redbook." Published very regularly since 1946 (1947 edition), this unpretentious octavo sized work is usually the first book purchased by the novice collector of United States coins. In terms of overall useful information available in a single source, this 256 page compendium is hard to beat. Whether one collects "hogge" money, colonials, regular U. S. issues or territorial gold coins, he or she will find useful data throughout the reference.

The "Redbook" was originally conceived as a guide to values, or prices, that a collector might reasonably expect to have to pay for the various coins. During the late 1940s, the 1950s and early 1960s, the work served its purpose well. However, with the investment explosion of the late 1960s, 1970s and 1980s, when prices for numerous pieces were skyrocketing weekly, the book became obsolete even before its annual release. As a pricing guide in today's hobby, it is virtually useless except in areas which receive lesser collecting interest. I have always (and still do) recommended that every new collector of American coins purchase a copy before they spend untold amounts of money on "rare" coins. As mentioned above, it is an indispensable source of basic information.

In recent times, a growing number of dealers have touted the "great investment potential" of a complete set of "Redbooks." As a result, prices for the very early (one through eight) editions have increased steadily, as a growing number of collector/investors scramble to complete their sets. Prices approaching \$1,000 have been reported for very fine to near mint copies of the first edition! During the late '70s, when the last coin "boom" was at its peak, I sold numerous first editions in the six hundred to seven hundred dollar range (I should also mention that I was paying upwards of five hundred dollars for these items.)

I often felt a bit guilty asking such high prices for books which, quite frankly, are not rare at all. Not rare? Most assuredly. Although I cannot state with authority the exact number of first edition "Redbooks" that were printed, it is my understanding and belief that approximately 18,000 copies were released. Now, in terms of coin mintages, 18,000 is not a particularly large number, but in terms of a numismatic book, it is extremely large.

If we concede that the buyers of coins in 1947 were much more collector oriented than investor oriented, it would be reasonable to assume that a larger percentage of these individuals would be inclined to purchase a guide book. At the same time, we must remember that in 1947, the leading yearly numismatic publication was Wayne Raymond's "Standard Catalogue of U. S. Coins," the "bible of the hobby" for more than a decade. Still, it would appear that the "Redbook" sold quite nicely, and it is my feeling that virtually all of the initial copies of the first edition were sold quickly. This belief is supported by the necessity to produce a second printing of the first edition.

Through the nearly forty years since the first "Redbook" appeared, many have come back into the marketplace, promoted as a low-risk investment. Numerous advertisements espouse them as rare, very rare, and exceedingly

rare. Well, dear reader, I take exception to those statements. In the eight or nine years I have been dealing in numismatic literature, I have handled no less than several hundred copies of the first edition. On a couple of occasions I obtained more than twenty copies at a time from single sources. For a few years, I sold many copies to individuals who were accumulating "hoard" quantities. One gentleman bought no less than fifteen copies from me — all in very fine to near mint condition! This was over a period of about three years, and as I obtained the high grade specimens that he required, the price rose from about \$125 to \$700. Now, these were not prices set by me; rather, they were based on the spiraling prices being quoted in the major numismatic publications by a few promoters who were hyping them as "can't miss" investments. My prices rose simply because my costs rose — dramatically.

Following the "crash" in the overall coin market in 1980-1981, prices did subside somewhat, to the point that nice first editions could be had for about one half of their peak levels. In the past year or so, however, I have once again noticed that prices for the early editions are beginning to creep up again. Two years ago, while working a major convention in Southern California, I sold a few first editions to a well known dealer who publishes a monthly investment newsletter. As I recall, I sold him four copies at \$125 each. Shortly thereafter, I noticed that he was offering these same pieces for around \$300 apiece. I will not state that this markup is price "gouging," but it does seem like an unusually high margin, considering the overall availability of these items.

Please do not misunderstand the purpose of this commentary. Like any coin series, regularly issued periodicals, or a work printed in various editions, the "Redbook" has become a collectible. Indeed, the first complete set of numismatic books that I succeeded in assembling was **A Guide Book of United States Coins**. I finished my set in 1978, at a total price of about \$200 (that's 32 editions or an average of \$6.25 each). The same price today wouldn't buy one first edition.

I still encourage anyone who is so disposed to go about putting a nice set of "Redbooks" together. I feel that there is little question that they will prove to be worth more in years to come. However, I would urge anyone who is in the process of building a set (or anyone considering the task) to "shop around" and force the dealers who are specializing in this area to be competitive. Be tough and learn to negotiate. Run buy ads in the coin publications, offering what you feel to be a fair price. I repeat — "Redbooks" are not rare. They are out there, and with a little effort and patience, you should eventually be able to assemble a nice set without having to pay a "king's ransom."

ATTENTION, COIN DEALERS

The May 7-10, 1986 Central States Numismatic Society Convention will have an expanded bourse of 350 tables. The Board of Governors hopes this larger bourse will enable the Convention to accommodate the many dealers now on our waiting list. To have your firm's name added to the waiting list for bourse space, contact the Secretary:

Robert E. "Bob" Douglas

P. O. Box 223, Hiawatha, Iowa 52233

The Crazy Life of a Coin Dealer

by Gayle K. Pike,

Many of my friends think my life is very glamorous traveling around the country selling coins and jewelry. I get to fly to lots of cities, stay in hotels and eat out all the time. I must admit it has its great moments and the people are the best in the world; but then there are the other times. Typically, each of us has our horror story that sends our blood pressure sky high at the time, but months later we find funny — or at least mildly amusing. We wonder how so much could go wrong in so little time! Roger Bryan, FUN President, recently wrote an article on one of his “adventures,” but I do believe I have one that will top his.

I work and share a lot of tables with a terrific group of guys from the Detroit area. Several of these guys put on the Detroit Renaissance Coin Show which, unfortunately, usually falls on the same weekend as our Tennessee State Coin Show. This year to my delight it did not conflict, and I was informed I had best be there. Since I sell a lot of jewelry, I always go to the Tucson Gem Show scheduled to begin the same Friday and run the entire week. “No problem” I thought. “I will just go straight from Detroit to Tucson.” There was a Republic flight that left late Sunday evening from Detroit, stopping in Minneapolis and continuing on to Phoenix. In Phoenix, I changed to a flight for Tucson scheduled to arrive at 9:00 p.m., which allowed plenty of time for a good night’s sleep prior to beginning the Gem Show bright and early on Monday. NO PROBLEM! Was that a laugh!

Now, to understand my troubles you have to know a little about the airline system. The free tickets earned in the airline frequent flyer program are great as long as your flight encounters no problems. Also, the free tickets require that you begin and end your flight in the same city and all travel must be on the airline issuing the free ticket. I had wanted to go from Tucson directly back to Memphis. But I was told I couldn’t; so I booked a flight from Memphis to Detroit and back to Memphis a week later. I decided to use my free ticket from Detroit to Tucson and back to Detroit. The Gem Show in Tucson is held once a year and is really about ten different shows which are held at a different hotel for the entire week, culminating with the main show at the convention center. Every hotel room and rental car in Tucson are taken for this event. So I was feeling very good. My hotel room was guaranteed. My rental car was confirmed at a very good rate, and my round trip flight from Detroit to Tucson was free and was first class. No problem! Boy, would those words come back to haunt me!

It all started when a friend of mine from Detroit and her fiancée offered to take me to the airport on Sunday. Because we were busy catching up on all the gossip, she didn’t realize he had missed the turn until we had gone several miles out of the way. A quick U-turn got me to the airport three minutes before my flight was to leave. The ticket agent told me if I ran as fast as I could I might make the flight; but I could say “bye” to my bags right then. They wouldn’t make it until the next flight and that wasn’t until the next day. I did make the flight. I sat hoping as each baggage truck passed the plane that I would see it stop and load my bags. No such luck. So I resigned myself to

spending the night without so much as a toothbrush. I settled down with a drink and decided to get some bookkeeping done. Our 30 minute stop in Minneapolis turned into three hours. I had only 35 minutes in Phoenix before my flight to Tucson. Therefore, when they announced that we would be a "few minutes" late because of a mechanical problem, I started to get a little worried. I asked the flight attendant what the delay would do to my connection. She laughingly replied the flight we were to pick up in Phoenix for Tucson was still on the ground there in Minneapolis. It also had mechanical trouble! I felt much better, but made a note to ask the travel agent why I hadn't been on that flight in the first place.

It wasn't long before the pilot and co-pilot came out to join the passengers for coffee, a sure sign that we weren't going anywhere soon! The co-pilot was explaining that we had trouble with the slats on the wing. It seems they didn't want to go down at the same time. We had made a rather abrupt drop on our landing approach in Minneapolis and I couldn't help wondering if that was because of the slat problem. I made the mistake of asking and discovered that this was due to the computer landing the plane "not having its act together" and not have everything synchronized properly. Which way is the train station? The mechanics kept hopping on and off the plane as a half dozen passengers gathered at the cockpit door to watch the captain try the slats to see if they worked together, only to see the red light indicating our wait wasn't over. Finally an announcement came for all passengers connecting in Phoenix for Tucson to deplane as they were being re-routed.

So I grabbed my briefcase and coat and hurried off the plane, only to be met with an apology that because I was on a free ticket I couldn't be placed on another airline and my best bet was to hope the pilot made up time in the air. Fat chance that he will make up two hours in the air! So I called and cancelled my guaranteed hotel room in Tucson knowing Phoenix was as far as I was going to get that night — even if I made it to Phoenix. So back on the plane I went, much to the dismayed look on the flight attendant's face. A quick explanation brought me another free drink and a blanket. I had just situated myself comfortably when the announcement came that our plane was going to the hangar and we were transferring to a new plane. So 200 people grabbed kids and bags and changed planes.

Finally, we were in the air on our way to Phoenix. I got out my Republic schedule to see how quickly the following morning I could get a flight to Tucson and to figure out when my bags would arrive. Much to my horror, Republic has one flight a day between Tucson and Phoenix at 8:30 p.m., which meant I couldn't get to Tucson for 24 hours. It's either rent a car and drive to Tucson, or pay for the extra airfare on another carrier between Phoenix and Tucson, or miss an entire day of the gem show. At this point I was a little tense! The last 40 minutes of my flight, a small child several rows back cried and no amount of comforting from Daddy seemed to work. At that point in my trip I felt like crying too, and would have cried if there had been someone to put their arm around me and tell me everything was going to be all right.

Upon my arrival in Phoenix I went to the agent and asked about the next Republic flight to Tucson. To my surprise they were going to put me on another airline and get me out to Tucson that night. Every hotel in the city is sold out and I had cancelled my room for the night; but, I'm not about to argue with their generosity. I arrive in Tucson around midnight. I went down to baggage claim first and to my great surprise sitting in the corner were two familiar

pieces of luggage. Something is going my way for a change! I guess the baggage handlers didn't know my bags were on a free ticket and sent them by another airline, because my bags made it to Tucson several hours before I did.

I started calling hotels, praying for a vacancy. I lucked out and got one on the second call. Things are going too good! I called the rental car and they sent the van right over to get me. However, when I got to their office, with my confirmation number in hand, I was told that there was no car available for me. No amount of arguing could make a car appear and they didn't seem to care that the city was sold out of rental cars. By this point all I wanted to do was crawl into bed and pull the covers up over my head, and hope for a better day. So this 'X*&X' rental car agency did me the "great courtesy" of taking me back to the airport. Needless to say, that agency will never be used again! After being "dumped" back at the airport, another call brought the hotel van. After checking in, I realized I was starving and had just missed the restaurant closing by ten minutes. Oh, well, tomorrow is another day!

Monday started out okay. The first place I called had a car available, so I grabbed it. I checked out of my hotel and into the hotel that was to be my home for the week. Then I rushed down to the show. I spent about six hours at the first hotel and noticed as I drove out of the parking lot that people were staring at me. As I drove down the street several people pointed at me. Everything seemed okay. Finally I rolled down the window only to be told I had a flat tire. Impossible, I thought. You can't have a flat and not know it. Guess what? You can on these new cars. Sure enough, it was flat as a pancake. I've been driving for 20 years and never had a flat tire, but somehow, having one this weekend didn't surprise me.

The rest of the week went very well considering tired feet, aching muscles, and exhaustion. Then on Friday I was to check out and head home. When I checked out I found my room rate had been changed from \$33 to \$39 a day. When I inquired I was told that \$33 was the single rate. I told the desk clerk I was single and that I had a single room all week. At this point the clerk informed me that this couldn't be true 'cause women didn't travel alone! Trying to be very business like and not burst out laughing, I informed him I was a "real big girl" and had been traveling alone for quite some time. After several minutes I finally convinced him. Wouldn't he be surprised to know I did it every weekend? I thought of some great things to say, but I decided that most of them would have gone over his head anyway. I got my \$33 rate and laughed all the way to the airport, wondering if at age 36 I should get a note from my mother saying I have permission to be out alone.

I had a two hour layover in Detroit before my flight to Memphis, and had planned to meet a girl friend for a drink. When I checked in at Tucson I got a real sweetheart of an agent who offered to send me directly to Memphis rather than the scenic route through Detroit. It was tempting. But since I see my girl friend so seldom and she had made special plans to come out to the airport, I explained to the agent that I had better go on through Detroit. I had to change planes in Phoenix and called her to let her know exactly what time I got into Detroit. Somehow it just fit the pattern when she told me she was sick and had a doctor's appointment, and wouldn't be able to make it out to the airport. You can imagine my frustration when I got to Detroit and found out my flight was three hours late. Five hours to kill. It just figured. If my girl friend had been able to come out my plane most certainly would have left exactly on time, but since she couldn't, it was late.

How do you kill five hours in an airport? You call all your friends in that city and say "hi." You try three flavors of ice cream and a bowl of chili. Last, but not least, you memorize the gift shops. Since it was Valentines day, I did get a kick out of all the men on their way home rushing in to buy their sweetheart a card, and I thought a little sadly of the Valentine cards I had bought and never mailed. I finally made my way to the gate only to find out the flight was going to be another hour late. Finally, we were in the air and the dinner service turned out to be an apple and a slightly frozen ham sandwich. Fortunately I wasn't very hungry, thanks to the three ice cream cones I enjoyed during my wait. As luck would have it. I had a young man in his twenties sitting next to me, who had just gotten a "Dear John" letter from his girl friend. Believe it or not, he talked non-stop all the way to Memphis. I just wasn't in the mood to give advice to the young man, but I didn't have the heart to not listen. I hoped a few yawns would give him the message that I really wanted to sleep.

I was thankful for my arrival in Memphis. I grabbed a cab and headed for my mother's house where my car was parked. I had a very nice cab driver and we laughed about my strange trip. He promised to get me home without incident. We arrived at my mom's house and he unloaded my bags and started to the door with them. Halfway up the walk he set the bags down and apologized, saying he was afraid of dogs and would go no further. Standing in the door was mom and her dog. I laughed and carried the bags the rest of the way, thinking this was a fitting ending for such a trip.

What a trip! And I do this for a living!

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Legal Tender

by Bill Mross

Bill Mross, a practicing attorney in Racine, Wisconsin, will respond to numismatically related legal questions in each issue of **The Centinel**. This feature is based on Wisconsin law, which may yield different results than would be applicable in other jurisdictions. If you have a question you'd like to see answered in the pages of **The Centinel**, write to Bill Mross, Central States Numismatic Society, P. O. Box 589, Milwaukee, WI 53201.

1) Dear Legal Tender: I purchased several lots (\$2100-2200 worth) at a West Coast auction the first part of May. I inquired at the auction as to when the lots would be delivered and was asked for references. When I provided these they told me that the items would be shipped the following week. The lots didn't arrive and I called the auction house, only to be told that they would be sent very soon. In the meantime, I had clients all over me about the coins that they had authorized me to purchase for them. In late May, still bereft of material, I called the auction folks again. They told me now that an invoice would be sent and that I would have to pay for the coins before they would be shipped. I sent my check. The coins were sent to me on June 4 by registered mail.

I called the auction house once or twice a week seeking my purchases. Ultimately, it was discovered that the lots had been lost in the mail. I have yet to receive a refund from the auctioneer. The company tells me that it is their policy to make no refunds until they settle with the Postal Service in cases like this. In the meantime, they are working on my money. The auction terms of sale have no provision applying to this situation. What hope can you offer me? — R. M., Sandusky, OH

Dear R. M. — I just don't think that I can offer you very much of practical value — I'm very sorry. The fall of the auctioneer's hammer gives rise to enforceable contract rights, but it does not necessarily do anything with respect to transferring title to the property that is the subject of the auction. The passage of title to the items that are the subject of the sale is very important in determining who should bear the risk of loss. Some cases hold that title passes to the buyer, who then bears the risk of loss, upon completion of the sale. Other rulings are to the effect that title does not pass until payment occurs, in which event risk of loss remains with the seller. If nothing need be done to put the property in condition for delivery to the buyer, he or she gets title when the sale is completed. If anything need be done to put the lot(s) in condition for delivery, title does not pass until that is fulfilled and delivery and acceptance happen.

All of the foregoing can be varied by contract (the terms of sale). Mode of delivery can also be important. If the contract tells the seller to ship the lot(s) by carrier, but does not require delivery to a particular destination, title (and risk of loss) pass upon delivery to the carrier. Conversely, if delivery to a particular destination is mandated, title and risk of loss do not pass until the delivery to the particular destination has occurred. Where the contract requires for its performance goods identified when the contract is made (which surely applies here), and the goods suffer casualty without fault of either party to the contract before risk of loss passes to the buyer, the contract is voided if the

loss is total. Here, it certainly looks like you are being regarded as not bearing the risk of loss and that you are involved in a void contract where you will be put back into the former position by eventually getting your money back. This is nothing to complain about.

Despite on hour or two in the books, I find no concrete answer to what you are putting to me. I can only say that you should be entitled to the recovery of your money within a reasonable time. Please don't ask what a reasonable time is — it is not susceptible of pat definition. Your situation is not improved by the absence of an auction term on this — because all of the foregoing are subject to variation by contract in each individual case. The only real way of protecting yourself in the future could be to include a term on this when you send in your bids as a part of this bid sheet and auction contract — but the auction house could then refuse to honor your bids by saying that you were not complying with their terms of sale. Perhaps something should be done by an organized numismatic body to get auction houses to include a term like this in their sale terms.

2) Dear Legal Tender: I received merchandise through the mail from a dealer that I had not ordered. The dealer had done this several times before. I did not want this lot any more than I had wanted the prior lots. Before, I had been a nice guy and sent the material back to the dealer paying postage and insurance out of my own pocket. He apparently didn't get the idea and kept it up. I was tired of this by now and simply wrote "Refused" on the shipment and handed it back to the letter carrier for return. The package was lost in the mail on the return trip. The Postal Service has rejected the claim filled with it because there was no insurance in force on the return. The dealer is now after me to pay for the material, saying that I should have sent it back to him with insurance. I don't think I need to pay. How about you? — W. J., Lander, WY

Dear W. J. — Neither do I. This would appear to be a sale on approval. Unless it is otherwise agreed, if the goods delivered may be returned by the buyer even though they conform to the contract, a sale on approval exists if the goods were delivered primarily for use. I'm not sure that any contract existed here because there does not seem to have been any meeting of the minds between the two of you and this was unsolicited merchandise. In any event — risk of loss and title do not pass to the buyer until his or her acceptance of the merchandise in a sale on approval, unless otherwise agreed (not present here). Title reverts in the seller on rejection of the items (I'm not sure that title could be said to have ever left the dealer herein). I think that the dealer is stuck on this one and you are home free. The dealer is really being very foolish to do business this way — the law perhaps impliedly recognizes that people don't want to be bothered with these types of solicitations and thus puts the risk of acting this way upon the overture maker.

'Til next time . . . Bill Mross, Legal Tender

Make your plans now to attend the May 7-10, 1987 Convention of the Central States Numismatic Society at the Cervantes Convention Center, St. Louis, Missouri. Rooms have been blocked for Convention attendees at both the Radisson and Sheraton Hotels, both located adjacent to the Convention Center.

Reservation cards will be included in the Winter Centinel

Numismatic Travels

by Kevin Foley

I have two of **Kevin's Onion Awards** to bestow this month. The first goes to the Radisson Hotel chain. While this organization does indeed have a group of generally superior properties that offer satisfactory service, their recently introduced frequent traveler program borders on being an insult to their customers. The aspect of their program that arouses my ire is a provision that credits are given only for stays paid at regular or corporate rates. Stay at a weekend or other promotional rate and you earn zero credits towards the various premiums — generally free or reduced rate hotel stays or air fares.

While most everyone is realistic enough to realize that the cost of all premium programs for frequent travelers has to be paid for some how, the Radisson Hotels are the first in the travel industry innovative enough to offer the frequent guest travel awards with one hand while extracting their cost from the same traveler with the other in the form of directly higher room charges.

Northwest Airlines earns the second of **Kevin's Onion Awards** for this issue. After merging with Republic Airlines and fully integrating the frequent flyer programs of the two carriers, Northwest significantly cut back on the awards which would have been available to Republic frequent travelers in the absence of the merger. A Republic frequent flyer with 100,000 total miles during 1986 would have earned seven free tickets in the absence of the merger. With the merger and the rules changes instituted by Northwest that same traveler will now earn only five tickets for the same travel.

Needless to say, the changes were accompanied with much hoopla designed to convince the customers what an improvement the new program is.

I'm pleased to report that there is also an **Orchid Award** to present. Some firms do their job in a superior fashion and when they do they ought to be recognized. ACCESS PRESS, Ltd., based in Los Angeles, California, publishes a series of travel guides which rate an "A" from even the most curmedgeonly of reviewers. At roughly \$10 each the Access series has guides on several of the most popular travel destinations in the country, including Los Angeles, San Francisco, Hawaii, New York, Washington, D.C., and New Orleans. If you appreciate well organized and attractively composed graphic material, you'll certainly enjoy reading the Access series. Each book breaks down the city it considers into a number of sections and within each section the different types of attractions are all related to each other through the use of different type colors. For example, all the restaurants in the San Francisco book appear in red type, while the hotels are set in purple. This is without doubt the best series of travel books I've yet found and they come with my highest recommendation.

— Kevin Foley

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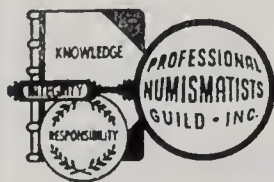
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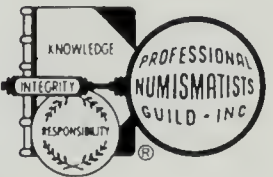
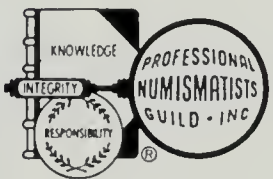
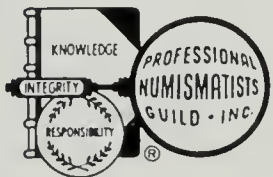
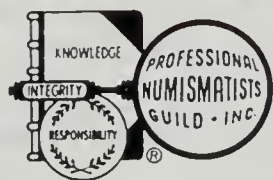


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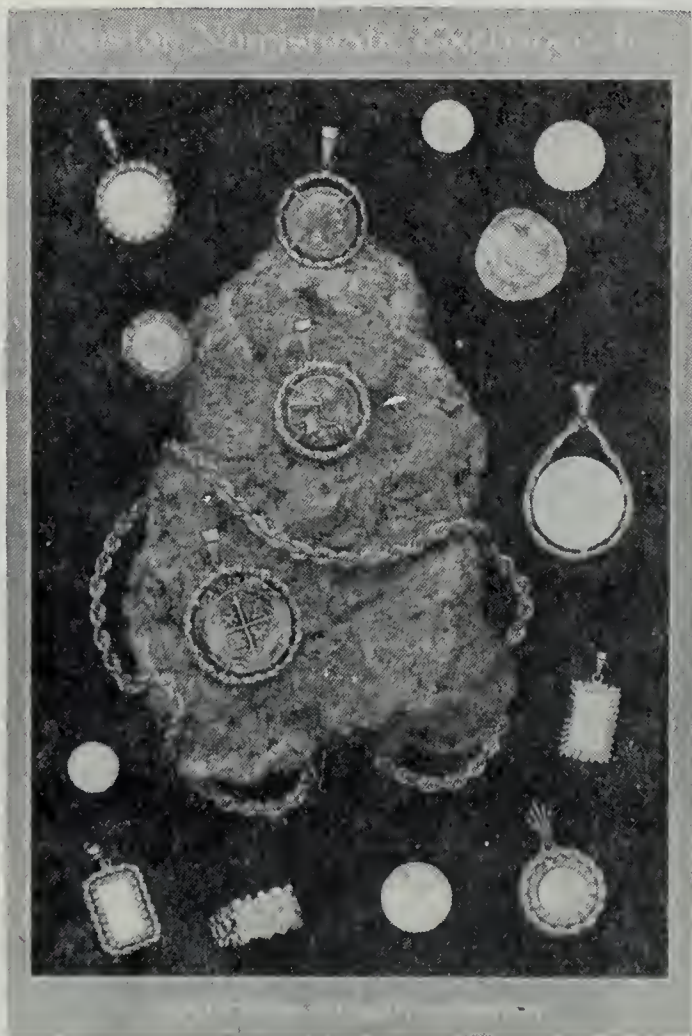
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